

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TITLE: TIME DISPLAY APPARATUS

Preliminary Amendment: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) A time display apparatus ~~including comprising:~~

a display unit and

a control unit, the display unit being ~~provided with~~ comprised of an indicator portion of variable area ~~and~~, the control unit being operative to alter the area of the indicator portion in accordance with the minutes of the time to be displayed, the ~~or an additional~~ control unit being operative to alter the visual appearance of the indicator portion, without altering the area of the indicator portion, exclusively in accordance with the hour of the time to be displayed,

~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said display unit includes comprises a color display, ~~and the~~ control unit ~~is~~ being operative to alter the color of the indicator portion exclusively in accordance with the hour of the time to be displayed.

2. (Currently amended) A time display apparatus according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the indicator portion has the a shape of a generally rectangular bar, the control unit being operative to alter the length of the bar in accordance with the first unit of time to be displayed.

3. (Currently amended) A time display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the indicator portion has the a shape of a segment of an annulus, the control unit being operative to alter the

circumferential extent of the indicator portion in accordance with ~~the a~~ first unit of time to be displayed.

4. (Currently amended) A time display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the indicator portion has ~~the a~~ shape of a segment of a circle, the control unit being operative to alter ~~the an~~ angle subtended by the segment in accordance with the first unit of time to be displayed.

5. (Currently amended) A time display apparatus according to ~~any preceding claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the control unit is operative to increase the area of the indicator portion as ~~the a~~ value of the first unit of time to be displayed increases.

6. (Currently amended) A time display apparatus according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the display unit ~~includes~~ is comprised of a liquid crystal display, ~~a part of which forms the~~ thereof forming said indicator portion.

7. (Currently amended) A timepiece ~~including~~ comprising:

    a display unit and

    a control unit, the display unit being provided with ~~comprised of~~ an indicator portion of variable area~~and~~, the control unit being operative to alter ~~the an~~ area of the indicator portion in accordance with ~~the~~ minutes of ~~the~~ time to be displayed~~and~~, the ~~or an~~ additional control unit being operative to alter the visual appearance of the indicator portion, without altering the area of the indicator portion, exclusively in accordance ~~the an~~ hour of the time to be displayed,  
    characterised in that ~~the~~ wherein said display unit ~~includes~~ comprises a color display, ~~and~~ the control unit ~~is~~ being operative to alter ~~the~~ color of the indicator portion exclusively in accordance with the hour of the time to be displayed.

8. (Currently amended) A time display apparatus substantially as hereinbefore described in Claim 1 with reference to and/or as shown in the accompanying drawings.

9. (Currently amended) A timepiece substantially as hereinbefore described in Claim 1 with reference to and/or as shown in the accompanying drawings.

10. (Currently amended) Any novel feature or novel combination of features as hereinbefore described in Claim 1 with reference to and/or as shown in the accompanying drawings.